The Old Stone Church

April 2, 2023

Palm Sunday with Communion

10 AM Sanctuary Worship

We Gather in the Grace of God

Prelude

Meditation
Emily Lorenzon, violin

J. Massenet

Welcome

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

Introit

Joy In The Morning

Natalie Sleeth

There’ll be joy in the morning on that day, there’ll be joy in the morning on that day, for the daylight will dawn when the darkness is gone, there’ll be joy in the morning on that day.

There’ll be peace and contentment evermore, there’ll be peace and contentment evermore, every heart, every voice on that day will rejoice, there’ll be peace and contentment evermore.

There’ll be love and forgiveness everywhere, there’ll be love and forgiveness everywhere, and the way of the Lord will that day be restored, there’ll be love and forgiveness everywhere.

* Those who are able are requested to stand

Please silence all electronic devices.
* CALL TO WORSHIP

This is a day of joyous welcome.
Yet joy is tempered with impending doom.

We welcome Christ waving palm branches.
We wait with Christ through hours of agony.
Our leader comes humbly, riding on a donkey.
Blessed is the One who comes in God’s name.

Jesus rides into the tumult of our times.
People still oppose the way of love.
Yet love prevails in spite of opposition.
Give thanks that God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Open to us the gates of righteousness.
Let us enter in the light God offers.

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Holy God,
whose steadfast love offers direction and purpose to our lives,
help us to be faithful in the small things you ask of us day by day,
that we may see all that you reveal to us,
give thanks in all circumstances,
and grow toward the mind of Christ.
In obedient trust, we enter this holy week,
eager to participate in a world transformed by love.

Amen.

* HYMN #196

All Glory Laud and Honor

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

Refrain

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
CALL TO CONFESSION

Cheryl Cairns

In the garden, Jesus directed the disciples to watch and pray. But they failed in their support. Have we not also fallen asleep? How constant and persistent is our prayer life? How eager are we to take the risks of trusting in Christ’s leading? Will we betray rather than follow? God is waiting to hear our plea for mercy. Let us join our voices in the corporate prayer of confession, followed by time for personal silent confession.
* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,
we have blamed You when the hosannas die
and the parade turns into a mob scene.
We heap our doubts on You
even though our inaction adds power to those who shout, “Crucify.”
We rebel against the risks of discipleship.
Why raise our voices against the evil we see?
One voice simply becomes one more victim.
O God, we protest,
but we know down deep that the victim of our silence
is the way of love, the way of life.
Forgive our cowardice and help us to stand with Christ
in a world that has forgotten humility and obedience to You.
O God, we want to be faithful.
Why does it cost so much?

(moment of silent confession)

* KYRIE ELEISON

John Merbecke

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God does not forsake us.
In times of terror and suffering we are not alone.
In Christ, we are strengthened as we watch and pray.
We receive courage to love in the face of ridicule
and to act for truth amid the oppressive forces of deceit.
Love is at the heart of creation,
bringing us to new beginnings,
to resurrection life in all its fullness.

Thanks be to God!

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer a sign of peace to one another.

* GLORIA #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.
OFFERTORY INVITATION
For thirty pieces of silver, Jesus was betrayed.
And still today He is denied
in the way we use the resources entrusted to us.
God does not ask of us a token of support.
We are called to give our all,
of which our offering here is but a symbol.
Will our gifts shout good news to the world?

OFFERING

OFFERTORY  
Hosanna To The Son Of David  
Daniel T. Moe

Hosanna to the Son of David.
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna to the Son of David:
Hosanna in the highest

* DOXOLOGY #607  
OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

* OFFERTORY PRAYER  
Cheryl Cairns
Let us pray together:

May these offerings bring life-changing good news,
both to those who give
and to all who are reached by the caring ministries of the church.
May they help to restore relationships of trust among us
and outpourings of generosity that echo
Your steadfast love around the world.
May Your saints be raised to new life
that cuts through the deceptions of society to bring
Your new order among us, O God of all times and places.
Amen.

* OFFERTORY RESPONSE  
All Things Come of Thee  
Herbert C. Peabody
All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen
WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Let us pray together:

**Come, Holy Spirit, giver of life;**
*breathe into us that we may hear a word of truth this day,*
*draw us into communion,*
*enable us to love,*
*conspire to make us one with You*
*for the world You so deeply love. Amen.*

THE READINGS

**Epistle**  Philippians 2:5-11 (NRSV Updated Version)

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he existed in the form of God,
  did not regard equality with God
  as something to be grasped,
but emptied himself,
  taking the form of a slave,
  assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
  he humbled himself
  and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God exalted him even more highly
  and gave him the name
  that is above every other name,
so that at the name given to Jesus
  every knee should bend,
  in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
  and every tongue should confess
  that Jesus Christ is Lord,
  to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**
PSALM 118 (The congregation joins in the response)

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes.

I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior.
The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
By the Lord has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord.
I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me and have been my savior.
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his kindness endures forever.

Gospel Matthew 21:1-11 (NRSV Updated Version)

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, 'The Lord needs them.' And he will send them immediately.”

This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:
“Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,
“Hosanna to the Son of David!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?”
The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

Pastor Stephen C. Blonder Adams

“Stand Up for Love”
WE Respond IN Love AND Faith

* Holy Communion

* Hymn #514 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness Schmücke Dich

Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
come into the daylight's splendor, there with joy your praises render.
Bless the One whose grace unbounded this amazing banquet founded;
Christ, though heav'nly, high, and holy, deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

* Invitation to the Sacrament of Communion

The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast.
Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul.
We receive the bread and the fruit of the vine connected to the ages:
to the saint of old who felt unworthy,
to the seeker eager to know God,
to the teenager who wonders what it's all about,
to the child who eats with unburdened faith.
Woven into this time, the hopes and tears of generations.
There is great joy here.
No one is turned away for God is the host!

* Hymn #514 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness Schmücke Dich

Sun, who all my life does brighten; light, who does my soul enlighten;
joy, your wondrous gift bestowing; fount, from which all good is flowing:
at your feet I cry, my Maker, let me be a fit partaker
of this blessed food from heaven, for our good, your glory given.

* Prayer

God is in this place.
  And in our hearts.
Open yourself to the nudging God.
  We feel the breath of the Spirit.
Remember God made flesh.
  Jesus, who taught us a new way.
  (Allow silence to speak for a few moments.)
Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table,
to taste the feast,
the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.
Time and time again you've offered your grace,
even as we have stepped away,
You continue to call us to be your people.
You have never left us.
We praise you for second, third, and fourth chances.
You are ever-patient, always faithful.
We give thanks for this time of celebration.
For the One this meal remembers.
For the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

With those who have gone before us,
whose hands touched the bread,
whose lips embraced the cup,
We worship you.
We glorify you.

This is the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Bless them and your people all around the world. As we eat of these common elements, unite our spirits in love for you, and our hearts in love for one another.
In the name of the Creator, the Redeemer, the Sustainer.

* HYMN #514                        Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness          SCHMÜCKE DICH

    Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, truest friend and dearest treasure,
    peace beyond all understanding, joy into all life expanding:
    humbly now, I bow before you, love incarnate, I adore you;
    worthily let me receive you, and, so favored, never leave you.

* THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE POURING OF THE CUP

Gathered with his friends, Jesus took bread, broke it and said:
Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha’olam hamotzi lehem min ha’aretz.
Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
who brings forth bread from the earth.
“This is my body, broken for you. Take and eat.”

And pouring the fruit of the vine into the cup, he blessed it saying:
Barukh ata Adonai Eloheinu melekh ha’olam borei p’ri hagafen.
Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe,
who creates the fruit of the vine.
“This is my blood, spilled out for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”
* PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT
  Holy Spirit, send power upon these gifts, your bread and your cup.
  God of all, send your Spirit to this place
  so that those gathered here, in this sacred moment,
  may know your presence.
  As we eat the bread and drink of the cup,
  make us one with the saints,
  and with our sisters, siblings and brothers in faith around the world.
  Be with us God, not only here but in every moment of our lives.
  Help us
  To know you,
  To be guided by the Holy Spirit,
  And to live Christ.
  Now and forever.

* PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER
  We pray for all those in need of healing, comfort or strength,
  whether it be of body, mind, or spirit. We pray for...
  We pray all these things in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray...
  Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
  Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
  Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
  as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
  but deliver us from evil.
  For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

* CALL TO THE FEAST
  This is the feast prepared for you. Come and share for all is ready.
  Please hold the elements till all are served, that we might partake of them together.

COMMUNION ANTHEM
Ave Verum Corpus
Mozart
Ave verum Corpus, natum de Maria Virgine.
Vere passum immolatum in Cruce pro homine.
Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit sanguine,
esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.

* CALL TO THE FEAST
  This is the feast prepared for you. Come and share for all is ready.
  Please hold the elements till all are served, that we might partake of them together.

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SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP
  The Body of Christ broken for you.
  The Blood of Christ shed for you.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION
  Creative, connecting God,
you have sent your Spirit and made us the body of Christ;
From child-like faith, to youthful energy,
from middle-aged mindfulness, to elder’s wisdom.
We thank you for this time, this remembrance. Amen.
HYMN #197

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

1 Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang;
2 From Olivet they followed ’mid an exultant crowd,
3 “Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,

through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang,
the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud;
for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King.

To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast,
the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state,
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,

the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best,
nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

The opening two stanzas narrate the first Palm Sunday in the past tense, but the third stanza shifts to the present tense to emphasize what current singers do and believe. The repeated elements in this anonymous German tune suggest the repetitive patterns in a crowd’s chant.

TEXT: Jennette Threlfall, 1873, alt.
MUSIC: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Württembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784; alt.
7.6.7.6.D
* BENEDICTION AND BLESSING

Lift high the branches that honor Jesus Christ.  
Lift high the cross that proclaims love’s sacrifice.  
We will wave our greeting with joyous praise.  
We will risk the commitment that led to a cross.
We are under oath before the living God.
May we have no reason to weep when the cock crows.
The promises we have made excite and challenge us.
We seek to be loyal and courageous in Christ’s service.
God keeps covenant with us in all circumstances.
The cup of blessing is extended to us every day.
May our flesh be strengthened to match our willing spirits.
May love prevail in all our dealings this week.

* CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

Gibbons

POSTLUDE

Prelude in A Minor

J.S Bach

“My flesh and my heart may fail,  
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

Psalm 73:26

We continue to keep in our prayers:

Caroline Poirier, Jean English, Bruce Arnoff, Margaret Bell, 
Bill Cairns, Carlson, the Griebel family
The victims of gun violence in Nashville TN
and all victims of gun violence in our country.

We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, homebound or in need.

Names are generally removed after four weeks unless there is a continuing need.
Holy Week @ The Old Stone Church

April 6, 2023 Maundy Thursday Tenebrae with Communion 6 PM
April 7, 2023 Good Friday 12:15 PM
April 9, 2023 Easter Sunday 10AM

Join OSC for a tour of Lake View Cemetery

Largely regarded as a crown jewel of Cleveland, join Old Stone Church for a walking tour of Lake View Cemetery on Saturday, May 20th at 10:00 a.m. The tour last between 1.5 and 2 hours and is being presented to OSC members as part of the Welcoming & Fellowship committee. For more information and to reserve your spot, please email Lee Ann Rader at rader.leeann@yahoo.com
Easter Crosses

Please return your cross to the church today, Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023.

April 2– April 11, 2023

Sun Apr 2 11:00am  Deacon Meeting/Chapel
11:15am  MUW hybrid meeting/Cuyahoga Room

Mon Apr 3 6:30pm  FPS Annual Meeting/Gallery

Tue Apr 4 10:00am Staff Meeting

Thu Apr 6 6:00pm  Maundy Thursday/Chapel

Fri Apr 7 12:15pm  Good Friday
4:00pm  Guardians/Mariners Home Opener

Sun Apr 9 10:00am  Easter Sunday
1:00pm  Guardians/Mariners

Tue Apr 11 10:00am Staff Meeting
There are many ways to support The Old Stone Church

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**The Old Stone Church**

**Loving Christ, Serving City—Spiritually, Socially, Culturally—Since 1820**

91 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio 44113-2058

**Phone:** 216-241-6145 **Fax:** 216-241-6149

**Website:** www.OldStoneChurch.org **E-Mail:** info@OldStoneChurch.org

Music copied under ccli#1638695

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Stephen C. Blonder Adams

**Guest Organist:** Jason Lorenzon

**The Old Stone Singers**

Leah Jennings Brown, *soprano*  
Cicely Schonberg, *soprano*  
Val Sibila, *soprano*  
Rayna Brooks, *alto*  
Mckenna Jones, *alto*  
Emma Nossem, *alto*

Ian Atwood, *tenor*  
Frederick Peterbark, *tenor*  
Andrew J. Schoenhofer, *tenor*  
R. Dominic Aragon, *bass*  
Joseph K. Breslau, *bass*  
Seth Hobi, *bass*

**Church Elders:**

Clerk of Session: Beth Buchanan

- **Class of 2023**  
  Beth Buchanan  
  Robert Hubert Jr.  
  Judy Macuga  
  Harriet Niles  
  Lee Ann Rader  
  Marty Vassel  
  John Young

- **Class of 2024**  
  Janie Chambers  
  Bernard Medie  
  Bob Reid

- **Class of 2025**  
  Michelle Baron  
  Fred Heider  
  Willie Brown  
  Dave Finley

**Church Deacons:**

- **Class of 2023**  
  Melissa Maffia  
  Pete Maffia  
  Mary Mikula  
  Michael Rolen  
  Penni Rolen  
  Alyssa Niepokny

- **Class of 2024**  
  Scott Bailey  
  Bernie Bischel  
  Carol Hoagland  
  Amy Wheeler  
  John Wheeler

- **Class of 2025**  
  Elie Medie  
  Mark Pichler

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